

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1                   1.       A method using a computer system for determining semantic  
2 information of a lexical unit, comprising one or more words, said method comprising:  
3                   receiving said lexical unit by said computer system;  
4                   determining a stem of said lexical unit;  
5                   determining a type of said lexical unit; and  
6                   generating semantic information associated with said lexical unit, wherein said  
7 semantic information is based on said stem and said type.

1                   2.       The method of claim 1 wherein said type is selected from a group  
2 consisting of entity or event.

1                   3.       The method of claim 2 wherein when said type comprises an entity  
2 type, said entity type is selected from a group consisting of simple or complex.

1                   4.       The method of claim 2 wherein when said type comprises an event  
2 type, said event type is selected from a group consisting of simple or complex.

1                   5.       A method for generating a semantic lexical item from an input,  
2 comprising one or more words, said method comprising:  
3                   receiving said lexical entry by a computer, said computer comprising a  
4 processor;  
5                   determining category information of said input;  
6                   determining a stem of said input;  
7                   determining a type of said input;  
8                   generating said semantic lexical item associated with said stem, wherein said  
9 semantic lexical item, comprises said type and said category information; and  
10                  storing said semantic lexical item in a storage system coupled to said  
11 processor.

1                   6.       The method of claim 5 wherein said type is selected from a group  
2 consisting of entity or event.

1                   7.       The method of claim 5 wherein said category includes information  
2 associated with a grammatical element.

1                    8.        The method of claim 7 wherein said grammatical element is selected  
2 from a group consisting of noun, verb, adjective, adverb, or pronoun.

1                    9.        A method for displaying a stage in the natural language compilation of  
2 an utterance, comprising one or more words, said method comprising:  
3                    receiving the utterance by a natural language system;  
4                    determining a semantic item associated with the utterance; and  
5                    displaying the semantic item.

1                    10.      The method of claim 9 wherein the semantic item comprises a  
2 syntactic-semantic composition.

1                    11.      The method of claim 9 further comprising displaying a parse tree  
2 associated with the utterance.